

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 143984

42

ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 COME-00 TRSE-00

FMC-02 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /052 R

DRAFTED BY EB/TT/MA:JPSTEINMETZ/MARAD:AARMSTRONG:EW

APPROVED BY EB/TT/MA:RKBANK

TREAS/CUSTOMS:EGABLE

FMC:RSHREVES

MARAD:RBOURDON

L/EB:FWILLIS (INFO)

EUR/RPE:ADSENS

----- 101195

P R 191630Z JUN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BERN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

AMCONSUL ROTTERDAM

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

UNCLAS STATE 143984

EC BRUSSELS FOR SPIRO

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 143984

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EWWT, ETRN, EEC, SZ, US

SUBJECT: SHIPPING: USG VIEWS ON ECE RESOLUTION NO. 15 ON

SHIPBORNE BARGES/PROPOSED EC/SWISS INLAND WATERWAY TONNAGE

CAPACITY REGULATIONS

REF: A) ECE DOC. TRANS/SC3/83 (DECEMBER 16, 1974);
B) EC BRUSSELS 5075; C) STATE 064138 (MARCH 29, 1974)

1. US MISSION GENEVA REQUESTED TO TRANSMIT FOLLOWING NOTE
TO ECE SECRETARIAT:

BEGIN TEXT:

(A) THE REPORT BY THE WORKING PARTY ON INLAND WATER
TRANSPORT ON ITS 18TH SESSION (TRANS/SC3/83) REQUESTS
GOVERNMENTS TO INFORM THE SECRETARIAT WHETHER THEY ACCEPT
THE PROVISIONS OF RESOLUTION NO. 15 CONCERNING SHIP-
BORNE BARGES.

(B) THE PROVISIONS OF THIS RESOLUTION ARE ACCEPTABLE TO
THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IF THE FINAL RECOMMENDATION
OF THE FIRST NUMBERED PARAGRAPH PERTAINS TO PAYING TAXES
AND TOLLS OF ALL KINDS APPLICABLE TO SERVICES RENDERED
OR PRIVILEGES PROVIDED ON INLAND WATERWAYS.

(C) THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT CANNOT ACCEPT A RECOM-
MENDATION THAT WOULD CALL FOR SHIPBORNE BARGES TO BE
TAXED TO ALLEVIATE VARIOUS ECONOMIC PROBLEMS, INCLUDING
DISPOSITION OF OBSOLETE CRAFT, COMPENSATION FOR OWNERS
OF VESSELS NOT EMPLOYED DURING PERIODS OF LOWER DEMAND,
OR COMPARABLE MEASURES.

(D) ALTHOUGH THE RESOLUTION WAS COMPOSED IN REFERENCE
TO THE EUROPEAN INLAND WATERS, THE SERVICES ARE EQUALLY
APPLICABLE TO THE INLAND WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES ON
THE BASIS OUTLINED. THOUSANDS OF VESSELS OF EUROPEAN
REGISTRY ENTER AND USE U.S. RIVERS, HARBORS, WATERWAYS
AND THE GREAT LAKES EACH YEAR. THEY ARE ASSESSED TOLLS,
HARBOR FEES AND CUSTOMARY CHARGES FOR SERVICES RENDERED
AT THE LEVEL APPLIED TO VESSELS OF THE U.S. OR OTHER
FOREIGN REGISTRY, BUT ARE NOT TAXED TO PROVIDE FUNDS THAT
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 143984

WOULD BE USED TO COMPENSATE OWNERS OF U.S. VESSELS NOT
FULLY EMPLOYED OR NO LONGER REQUIRED.

(E) THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT BELIEVES THIS DISTINC-
TION, NOT SOLELY CONFINED TO SHIPBORNE BARGES, IS AN
IMPORTANT PRINCIPLE THAT SHOULD BE MAINTAINED AMONG TRAD-
ING PARTNERS FOR VESSELS HANDLING IMPORT/EXPORT SHIPMENTS.

(F) THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WILL SEEK CLARIFICATION
OF THE PROVISION "THAT SHIP-BORNE BARGES SHOULD PAY THE
TAXES AND TOLLS OF ALL KINDS APPLICABLE ON INLAND WATER-
WAYS" AT THE NEXT MEETING OF THE ECE WORKING PARTY ON
INLAND WATER TRANSPORT. IN THE MEANTIME, IT IS REQUESTED

THAT THE VIEWS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES BE
CONVEYED TO OTHER MEMBERS OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR
EUROPE.

END TEXT.

2. EC BRUSSELS AND AMEMBASSIES BERN/ALL EC CAPITALS ARE
REQUESTED TO PROVIDE EC SECRETARIAT AND HOST GOVERNMENT
OFFICIALS (BOTH SHIPPING AND FOREIGN MINISTRY), RESPEC-
TIVELY, WITH INFORMATION COPY OF FOREGOING TEXT BEFORE
SCHEDULED EC/SWISS JUNE 23 MEETING MENTIONED REF B ON PRO-
POSED EC/SWISS INLAND WATERWAY TONNAGE CAPACITY
REGULATIONS.

3. DEPARTMENT HAD CONSIDERED PROVIDING EC SECRETARIAT
WITH PAPER SUGGESTED EC BRUSSELS 9941. HOWEVER, CONCERNED
US FLAG LINES WERE UNABLE TO PROVIDE DESIRED INFORMATION.
NEVERTHELESS, POSTS WILL NOTE USG VIEWS RE RESOLUTION
NO. 15 ARE DIRECTLY RELATED TO PROPOSED EC/SWISS TONNAGE
REGS. USG POSITION ON REGS. REMAINS AS OUTLINED REF C.
ACTION ADDRESSEES SHOULD EXPRESS CONTINUING USG CONCERN
RE APPLICATION OF REGS. TO LASH AND SEABEE BARGES AND
STRESS POSSIBILITY OF SECTION 19(B) COUNTERVAILING
MEASURES (SEE PARA 6, REF C). ADDITIONALLY, EMBASSIES
AND USEC BRUSSELS SHOULD INFORM OFFICIALS THAT APPLICA-
TION OF REGS. TO US FLAG LASH AND SEABEE BARGES MAY
JEOPARDIZE RECIPROCAL EXEMPTION (DOES NOT APPLY TO
LUXEMBOURG) FROM THE PAYMENT OF U.S. SPECIAL TONNAGE
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 143984

TAXES THAT THEIR VESSELS PRESENTLY ENJOY UNDER U.S. CODE
OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS (19 USC 4.22), THEREBY MAKING
THEIR VESSELS SUBJECT TO PAYMENT OF ONE DOLLAR PER NET
TON TAX OVER AND ABOVE REGULAR TONNAGE TAXES ASSESSED
BY U.S. CUSTOMS. KISSINGER

UNCLASSIFIED

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 26 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, RESOLUTIONS, INLAND WATERWAY TRANSPORTATION, CARGO SHIPS, TRANSPORTATION TAXES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE143984
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EB/TT/MA:JPSTEINMETZ/MARAD:AARMSTRONG:EW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D750214-0216
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t197506102/baaaaanbb.tel
Line Count: 148
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 MAR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 MAR 2003 by PhilliR0>; APPROVED <09 MAR 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: EWWT, ETRN, SZ, US, EEC
To: GENEVA
EC BRUSSELS
BERN
BONN
BRUSSELS
COPENHAGEN

DUBLIN
THE HAGUE
LONDON
LUXEMBOURG
PARIS
ROME INFO OECD PARIS
HAMBURG
STRASBOURG
ROTTERDAM
OSLO
STOCKHOLM
TOKYO
Type: TE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006